

HARTFORD STREET ZEN CENTER "NEWS"

57 Hartford Street -- Phone: 863-2507 -- Email: hszc108@yahoo.com -- Website: www.hszc.org -- June, 2006

Congratulations to *Rev. Myo Denis Lahey*
on the 20th anniversary of his ordination!

(Quote from Myo's Dharma talk at HSZC in May 2005)

This is our water, right? It's sometimes muddy and sometimes clear. Even in muddy water we can wash our feet. When the water is running clean and cold and fast, you can clean your brushes. This is also "nothing whatever to seek." This is also the fathomless quality of ordinary household matters.... How can that be compared with much discussion of Buddhism? Well, it can't. So in Soto Zen, our way is very much ordinary household matters. You know it's quite difficult for us sometimes hearing again and again there's nothing whatever to seek. It makes us a little bit uncomfortable. That means we're stuck with -- this. That being so, there's nothing to do but forget our state, return home. How's the river today? Muddy? OK, I'll wash my feet. Tomorrow it may be clear and cold -- then we can wash our brushes. Basically, that's it. What do you call the world?

Hartford Street History (Founding and prior years)
written by founding member, David Bullock

The practice place at 57 Hartford Street began in 1980 with some gay men interested in Buddhism. The first meeting at Gay Rap, an informal weekly forum, attracted about 25 men, including Issan Dorsey. Two members of what initially was called The Gay Buddhist Club lived at 57 Hartford Street and opened up their home to the group.

From 1973-79, the building had been used as the shrine room and residence for SF Dharmadhatu under direction of Vajradhara Chogyam Trungpa. As lesbians began to attend The Gay Buddhist Club, the name was changed to Maitri. Ultimately Issan became spiritual advisor and on December 8, 1981, Buddha's Enlightenment Day, Hartford Street Zen Center formally came into being. (to be continued)

Annual Meeting Notice

The 2006 General Meeting of sangha members will be held Saturday, June 17th at 11 am.



Letter from the President, Julia Ten Eyck

Dear Friends,

As President of HSZC Board of Directors, I'm happy and honored to tell you why I appreciate our Center and ask for your support of our activities.

Two years ago after having practiced insight meditation for many years, I was drawn to Zen practice and began searching for a place to regularly sit Zazen. After reading "The Lone Mountain Path: AIDS in the life and Death of Issan Dorsey Roshi" by Kobai Scott Whitney, my thought was, if there is any of this spirit remaining at HSZC today, this is where I want to practice." And, yes, we are fortunate Issan's spirit does live on here.

In addition to a full Zen Buddhist practice based on morning and evening meditation, our center hosts various groups, like the HIV sitting group, Wild Geese Sangha (an independent group of women lay practitioners) and the Gay Men's Buddhist Sangha. We've also made lovely enhancements to our peaceful Zen garden and recently celebrated a number of Jukai ceremonies.

HSZC's presence in the Castro will continue to shine brightly with your financial contribution. Some ways your dana will provide merit include: zendo improvements, supporting guest speakers, and helping sponsor student and priest residents.

With thanks and peace, Julia

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Excerpts: "Self-Portrait, from Another Direction" by Philip Whalen (Former HS Abbot)

*Tuned in on my own frequency
I watch myself looking
Lying abed late in the morning
With music, thinking of Y*

*I think what is thinking
What is the use or motion of the mind that compares with
A wink, the motion of the belly*

*Beside the highway
Young bullock savages the lower branches
of a big cedar tree*

* HSZC SCHEDULE *

MORNING (Monday-Friday)

5:30am-6:10am Zazen (Sitting Meditation)
6:10am-6:20am Kinhin (Walking Meditation)
6:20am-7:00am Zazen
7:00am-7:20am Chanting (Service)
7:20am-7:35am Soji (Temple Cleaning)

EVENING (Monday-Friday)

6:00pm-6:40pm Zazen
6:40pm-6:50pm Chanting

SATURDAY MORNING

6:30am-7:15am Zazen
7:15am-7:35am Chanting
7:35am-7:55am Soji

[BREAK]

9:10am-9:50am Zazen
10:00am-11:00am Dharma talk followed by
tea/discussion.

SUNDAYS and HOLIDAYS - Closed

RETREATS and INSTRUCTION

-- 1-day retreats (First Saturdays of the month)
-- Zazen instruction (brief form) at 8:30am (2nd
and 4th Saturdays); long form 1pm (3rd Saturdays
with pre-registration).

Movie Nights

Periodically, we do a potluck and movie night on
Sundays at 5pm. We recently viewed "Capote" and
"Crash" and are thinking of "Transamerica" for our
next film night. Join us?

Jukai

Joyfully, two of our sangha (and Board) members
recently received precepts. Jeff Thomas received
lay ordination from our Practice Leader, Rev. Myo
Lahey and Julia Ten Eyck received vows from her
teacher, Rev. Darlene Cohen (Russian River
Zendo). Last year, Sangha members Larry Peiperl
and Justin Rosetta received their rakusu from Myo.
Gassho.

Board of Directors - Appreciation

The Hartford Street Board of Directors offers bows
and deep gratitude to outgoing Board members Rev.
John King and Ross Todd for all of their generous
contributions for so many years. You have left us
with a rich and bountiful legacy. Thank you both!

New Residents

Welcome to Max Swanger and Soren Leaver who
joined our students in residence.

*"Mr. Bill" visits Hartford Street
(Ohh Nooo!)*

*Did you know you can access dharma talks
online through our web site? Well, you can, so
check out Rev. Michael McCormick's talk on
4/15/06 featuring Mr. Bill!!*

COMING SOON

- New Sutra Books with the Women
Ancestors List
- Website enhancements (stay tuned)

What's New?

***to find out about Hartford Street events and
activities, and so we can keep in touch with you,
please send us your email address or contact
information @ hszc108@yahoo.com.***

**** Also the editorial team would greatly appreciate
your feedback on this publication and what you'd
like to see in the future. Thanks!***